

# Learning English with CBC Calgary

## Weekly newscast

March 27, 2015

Lessons prepared by Amie Sondheim & Justine Light

### Objectives of the weekly newscast lesson

- to develop listening skills at the CLB 4 level
- to increase vocabulary among learners
- to increase knowledge of news stories
- to provide a self-study tool, as well as, an ESL classroom resource



[www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca)

<http://www.cbc.ca/calgary/learning-english/>

## News story #1 The Dangers of Social Media

Do you meet new people on the Internet using social media websites? This first story is about a young girl who went to meet a friend she had made on a social media site and how she ended up being sexually assaulted by three men.

### Vocabulary

Before you listen to the first news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily. Match the words in the story with the synonyms. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Answer	Words in the story	Synonyms (Related words)
	social media	a) accusation; complaint against someone
	arrest	b) meet up; gather; get together
	charge	c) an understanding; agreement; plan
	reminder	d) examples – Facebook, Twitter, My Space
	arrangement	e) occur; happen; arise
	hang out	f) to help remember; hint; warning
	transpire	g) capture; detain; jail; imprison

### Extra definitions to help you understand the reading:

**sexual assault** – a physical attack, or act of aggression in a sexual way

**sexually transmitted infection** – infections that are given to people through having unprotected sex

Now listen to the first news story from the audio file.

### Listening Activity: True/False

Decide whether the statements below are **true (T)** or **false (F)**. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The girl knew all three of the men from social media.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ All three men have been caught and are being charged.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ All three of the men sexually assaulted the girl in her home on the south side.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Rutledge is using this situation as a learning tool for parents of young children.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The original plan between the girl and her social media friend was to just hang out.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ The girl got a sexually transmitted infection from the sexual assault.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Rutledge says that there are definitely other victims.

**Discussion:** What are the dangers of social media that parents should talk to their kids about? How can parents control what their kids are doing on the Internet?

## News story #2 Recalled Chicken

Do you ever worry that the meat you buy in a grocery store will make you sick? This second story is about some chicken that is being recalled across Canada.

### Vocabulary

Before you listen to the second news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily. Use one of the vocabulary words below to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Word	Definition
<b>recall</b>	To ask people to return something that they bought because there is something wrong with the item
<b>chicken product</b>	Items you can eat that are made of chicken
<b>listeria</b>	A type of a bacteria that makes you sick
<b>contaminate</b>	To make something dirty or harmful by touching it with chemicals or poison
<b>brand</b>	A type of product made by a specific company that has a certain name on it
<b>best-before date</b>	The date that is written on food packaging that tells you when you should eat your food by
<b>distribute</b>	To share things with others in a planned and organized way

1. If you eat meat that is \_\_\_\_\_, you might get sick from \_\_\_\_\_.
2. When companies find out that they have sent out a product that is contaminated, they will \_\_\_\_\_ it and ask everyone to return it to the store they bought it from.
3. Some \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ are better than others and a lot of times the better ones are more expensive and taste better too.
4. Larger companies \_\_\_\_\_ their products to more stores than smaller companies can.
5. You should always check the \_\_\_\_\_ when you buy any kind of food, so you don't buy old food.

Now listen to the second news story from the audio file.

### Listening Activity: Short Answer

Answer the questions below as you listen to the audio. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. What is being recalled?
2. Who is asking that the items be recalled?
3. What is the description of the product (size and date)?
4. Where all was the product distributed?
5. Why did the product get recalled?
6. Is the threat of listeria certain?

**Discussion Question:** Have you ever had to return something that has been recalled by a company? Discuss the importance of having organizations like The Canadian Food Inspection Agency there to inspect our food.

### News story #3 Less Wait Time for Heart Patients

Do you know anyone who has had a heart attack? Did they have to wait a long time in the hospital to get answers about their condition? This next story is about how doctors are working towards making shorter wait-times for patients in the hospitals.

#### Vocabulary

Before you listen to the third news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily. Match the words with the correct definitions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Answer	Words or phrases	Definition
	generation of tests	a) over and over again – done many times
	diagnose	b) to be very full, busy or plugged up
	congestion	c) doctors
	repeatedly	d) something natural that we get from our food that keeps us strong and healthy
	protein	e) the person in charge of finding the cause of something
	physicians	f) the creation or making of test items
	sensitive	g) to notice, see or find something
	lead investigator	h) easily affected or damaged by something
	detect	i) to find out what someone is sick with after doing some tests

**Extra definitions to help you understand the reading:**

**heart attack**- when a person's heart suddenly stops working normally, causing great pain

**ER** – Emergency room. These are found in all hospitals and they are for people who are suddenly very sick or injured.

Now listen to the third news story from the audio file.

#### Listening Activity: Gap-Fill

Listen and fill in the gaps in the first part of the story. *Answers are in the appendix*

A new \_\_\_\_\_ could greatly \_\_\_\_\_ the time patients in Calgary wait to find out if they've had a \_\_\_\_\_. Researchers and doctors are looking at a new \_\_\_\_\_ they say could improve \_\_\_\_\_ and help reduce \_\_\_\_\_ in the E-R. Right now, doctors test a person's blood \_\_\_\_\_ for a specific protein produced when the heart is damaged. A \_\_\_\_\_ can take up to 12 hours, but physicians at Foothills Hospital are trying a new more \_\_\_\_\_ that can show if that \_\_\_\_\_ is present at much lower levels.

**Next, listen to the second part of the story and take notes:**

Who is involved?	
What happens?	
When will the new test be used?	

**Activity:** Use the gap-fill and your notes that you took and re-tell the story to a partner.

## Language Focus: Prepositions

Prepositions are some of the most common words in English, and they are some of the most difficult ones for language learners to understand how to use. The best way to learn them is to memorize them. The reason they are so difficult is because they often have many meanings:  
e.g. **in** school (shows participation in school/ location), speak **in** English (means)  
e.g. **on** the basketball team (shows participation with a sports team), **on** the bed (the location)  
e.g. throw it **over** the couch (position; location), think about it **over** the next few days (across time)

### List of Some of English's Prepositions:

at; about; between; below; by; for; from; in; into; inside; near; of; off; on; onto; out; over; to; up...

Answers are in the appendix:

#### A. Look at sentences from story one and decide which prepositions fit the best.

1. Calgary police say a 14-year-old girl who was sexually assaulted last year \_\_\_\_\_ (**of, by, in**) three men had met \_\_\_\_\_ (**on, about, up**) with one \_\_\_\_\_ (**of, at, for**) them through social media.
2. Three men \_\_\_\_\_ (**in, on, at**) their 20s have now been arrested and face a number \_\_\_\_\_ (**in, from, of**) charges.
3. Staff Sergeant Robert Rutledge \_\_\_\_\_ (**about, into, of**) the Child Abuse Unit says the girl was taken \_\_\_\_\_ (**at, into, for**) a bedroom \_\_\_\_\_ (**on, off, at**) a southeast home and sexually assaulted \_\_\_\_\_ (**by, from, out**) each of the men.
4. Rutledge says this is a reminder \_\_\_\_\_ (**near, over, for**) parents of young children to talk \_\_\_\_\_ (**in, about, below**) the dangers \_\_\_\_\_ (**of, into, by**) social media.

#### B. Look at all of story two and decide which of these preposition fit best: **about; in; of**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is recalling a chicken product because \_\_\_\_\_ concerns \_\_\_\_\_ possible Listeria contamination. The affected brand is Lilydale's "Oven Roasted Carved Chicken Breast." It comes \_\_\_\_\_ a 400-gram package with a best-before date \_\_\_\_\_ April 28, 2015. The CFIA says the product was distributed \_\_\_\_\_ Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

#### C. Now go back and listen to the first part of story three at 1:41 and fill in all of the prepositions that are missing.

A new study could greatly reduce the time patients \_\_\_\_\_ Calgary wait to find \_\_\_\_\_ if they've had a heart attack. Researchers and doctors are looking \_\_\_\_\_ a new generation \_\_\_\_\_ tests they say could improve diagnosis and help reduce congestion \_\_\_\_\_ the E-R. Right now, doctors test a person's blood repeatedly \_\_\_\_\_ a specific protein produced when the heart is damaged. A diagnosis can take \_\_\_\_\_ 12 hours, but physicians \_\_\_\_\_ Foothills Hospital are trying a new more sensitive test that can show if that protein is present \_\_\_\_\_ much lower levels.

## Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	MARCH 27 <sup>TH</sup> , 2015 WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi, this is Rosa Marchitelli. You're listening to Learning English with CBC for the week of March 27 <sup>th</sup> .	0:00
Story 1	Calgary police say a 14-year-old girl who was sexually assaulted last year by three men had met up with one of them through social media. Three men in their 20s have now been arrested and face a number of charges. Staff Sergeant Robert Rutledge of the Child Abuse Unit says the girl was taken into a bedroom at a southeast home and sexually assaulted by each of the men. Rutledge says this is a reminder for parents of young children to talk about the dangers of social media. In this particular case the victim met one of the individuals over a social media site and made an arrangement to just go hang out, be a teenager and unfortunately the sexual assault transpired soon after. Rutledge says the girl is being treated for a sexually-transmitted infection as a result of the assault. He says believe there could be other victims.	0:08
Story 2	The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is recalling a chicken product because of concerns about possible Listeria contamination. The affected brand is Lilydale's "Oven Roasted Carved Chicken Breast." It comes in a 400-gram package with a best-before date of April 28, 2015. The CFIA says the product was distributed in Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.	1:10
Story 3	<p>A new study could greatly reduce the time patients in Calgary wait to find out if they've had a heart attack. Researchers and doctors are looking at a new generation of tests they say could improve diagnosis and help reduce congestion in the E-R. Right now, doctors test a person's blood repeatedly for a specific protein produced when the heart is damaged. A diagnosis can take up to 12 hours, but physicians at Foothills Hospital are trying a new more sensitive test that can show if that protein is present at much lower levels.</p> <p>Dr. James Andruchow is an ER doctor and the lead investigator... He says by being able to detect changes in the level of protein at an earlier stage, doctors can potentially diagnose a heart attack much sooner as well as tell people that they have not had a heart attack much sooner. Andruchow says that could help free up beds because 85 per cent of people who go to the ER with chest pains actually aren't having a heart attack. Doctors say if the study goes well, the new test could be used in Calgary ER's within a year or two.</p>	1:41

## Answer keys

### News story 1

#### Vocabulary:

Answer	Words in the story	Synonyms (Related words)
<b>d</b>	social media	a) accusation; complaint against someone
<b>g</b>	arrest	b) meet up; gather; get together
<b>a</b>	charge	c) an understanding; agreement; plan
<b>f</b>	reminder	d) examples – Facebook, Twitter, My Space
<b>c</b>	arrangement	e) occur; happen; arise
<b>b</b>	hang out	f) to help remember; hint; warning
<b>e</b>	transpire	g) capture; detain; jail; imprison

#### Listening:

1.   F   The girl knew all three of the men from social media.
2.   T   All three men have been caught and are being charged.
3.   F   All three of the men sexually assaulted the girl in her home on the south side.
4.   T   Rutledge is using this situation as a learning tool for parents of young children.
5.   T   The original plan between the girl and her social media friend was to just hang out.
6.   T   The girl got a sexually transmitted infection from the sexual assault.
7.   F   Rutledge says that there are definitely other victims.

### News story 2

#### Vocabulary:

1. If you eat meat that is contaminated, you could get sick from listeria.
2. When companies find out that they have sent out a product that is contaminated, they will recall it and ask everyone to return it to the store they bought it from.
3. Some brands of chicken products are better than others and a lot of times the better ones are more expensive and they taste better too.
4. Larger companies distribute their products to more stores than smaller companies can.
5. You should always check the best-before date when you buy any kind of food, so you don't buy old food.

### Listening:

1. What is being recalled? **Lilydale's "Oven Roasted Carved Chicken Breast."**
2. Who is asking that the items be recalled? **The Canadian Food Inspection Agency**
3. What is the description of the product (size and date)? **It is chicken that comes in a 400-gram package with a best-before date of April 28, 2015.**
4. Where was the product distributed? **Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario**
5. Why did the product get recalled? **Because there were concerns that there could be listeria contamination**
6. Is the threat of listeria certain? **No, but there are concerns that the contamination was possible**

### News story 3

#### Vocabulary:

Answer	Words or phrases	Definition
<b>f</b>	generation of tests	a) Over and over again – done many times
<b>i</b>	diagnose	b) To be full or busy or plugged up
<b>b</b>	congestion	c) doctors
<b>a</b>	repeatedly	d) Something natural that we get from our food that keeps us strong and healthy
<b>d</b>	protein	e) The person in charge of finding the cause of something
<b>c</b>	physicians	f) The creation or making of test items
<b>h</b>	sensitive	g) To notice, see or find something
<b>e</b>	lead investigator	h) Easily affected or damaged by something
<b>g</b>	detect	i) To find out what someone is sick with after doing some tests

### Listening:

A new **study** could greatly **reduce** the time patients in Calgary wait to find out if they've had a **heart attack**. Researchers and doctors are looking at a new **generation of tests** they say could improve **diagnosis** and help reduce **congestion** in the ER. Right now, doctors test a person's blood **repeatedly** for a specific protein produced when the heart is damaged. A **diagnosis** can take up to 12 hours, but physicians at Foothills Hospital are trying a new more **sensitive test** that can show if that **protein** is present at much lower levels.

Who is involved?	Dr. James Andruchow
What happens?	He says by being able to detect changes in the level of protein at an earlier stage, doctors maybe can diagnose a heart attack much sooner or tell people that they have not had a heart attack much sooner. Andruchow says that could help free up beds because 85% of people who go to the ER with chest pains actually aren't having a heart attack.
When will the new test be used?	Doctors say if the study goes well, the new test could be used in Calgary ER's within a year or two.

### Language focus:

#### A.

1. A. Calgary police say a 14-year-old girl who was sexually assaulted last year **by** three men had met **up** with one **of** them through social media.
2. Three men **in** their 20s have now been arrested and face a number **of** charges.
3. Staff Sergeant Robert Rutledge **of** the Child Abuse Unit says the girl was taken **into** a bedroom **at** a southeast home and sexually assaulted **by** each of the men.
4. Rutledge says this is a reminder **for** parents of young children to talk **about** the dangers **of** social media.

#### B.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is recalling a chicken product because **of** concerns **about** possible Listeria contamination. The affected brand is Lilydale's "Oven Roasted Carved Chicken Breast." It comes **in** a 400-gram package with a best-before date **of** April 28, 2015. The CFIA says the product was distributed **in** Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

C. A new study could greatly reduce the time patients **in** Calgary wait to find **out** if they've had a heart attack. Researchers and doctors are looking **at** a new generation **of** tests they say could improve diagnosis and help reduce congestion **in** the E-R. Right now, doctors test a person's blood repeatedly **for** a specific protein produced when the heart is damaged. A diagnosis can take **up to** 12 hours, but physicians **at** Foothills Hospital are trying a new more sensitive test that can show if that protein is present **at** much lower levels.